

January XX, 2018

TO:

As mayors from XXX U.S. cities, we submit this letter of comment to oppose the Environmental Protection Agency's proposed repeal of the Clean Power Plan, *Repeal of Carbon Pollution Emission Guidelines for Existing Stationary Sources: Electric Utility Generating Units*.<sup>1</sup>

Collectively, we represent XX million residents, in XX states across the country. We strongly oppose the proposed repeal of the Clean Power Plan, which would put our citizens at risk and harm our efforts to address the urgent threat of climate change.

### **Climate Change is Global but Impacts are Felt Locally**

Communities across the country are experiencing the effects of climate change today: sea level rise; hotter, longer, and more frequent heat waves; increased extreme weather; and many other harmful impacts. There is broad agreement that the future economic costs of climate change should not be overlooked. On our current path, the annual cost of coastal storm damage is expected to climb to as high as \$35 billion by the 2030s; coastal property valued at \$66 to \$106 billion will likely be underwater by 2050.<sup>2</sup>

No one is insulated from the impacts of climate change – people in cities of all sizes, along with suburban and rural communities are all at risk. Residents of our communities have experienced harmful impacts of climate change such as dirtier air, increased heat-related illnesses and deaths, damaged and disappearing coastlines, longer droughts and other strains on water quantity and quality, and increasingly frequent and severe storms and wildfires.

Reducing greenhouse gas emissions is essential to protect our citizens against the worst impacts of climate change. A peer reviewed study conducted by EPA projected stark differences between a world in the year 2100 where global warming averages 2 degrees Celsius—a goal for which the Clean Power Plan is critical—and one in which global warming averages 4 degrees Celsius: 57,000 fewer domestic deaths per year due to poor air quality; 12,000 fewer domestic deaths per year from extreme heat and cold in 49 U.S. cities; up to \$6.4 billion in avoided annual adaptation costs from severe precipitation in 50 U.S. cities; \$3.1 billion in avoided annual damages and adaptation costs from sea level rise and storm surge on the coasts; and up to \$2.5 billion in avoided damages from inland flooding.<sup>3</sup>

### **Repealing the Clean Power Plan Would Slow Local Efforts to Address Climate Change**

Not only are climate change impacts felt locally — our communities are also where climate change adaptation and mitigation efforts are being implemented. Urban, suburban, and rural communities across the country are reducing their contributions to greenhouse gas emissions by investing in energy efficiency, committing to the use of clean energy resources, and reducing reliance on fossil-fueled

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<sup>1</sup> 82 Fed. Reg. 48,035 (Oct. 16, 2017), EPA-HQ-OAR-2017-0355.

<sup>2</sup> Kate Gordon et al., Risky Business: The Economic Risks of Climate Change in the United States 3–4 (2014), [http://riskybusiness.org/site/assets/uploads/2015/09/RiskyBusiness\\_Report\\_WEB\\_09\\_08\\_14.pdf](http://riskybusiness.org/site/assets/uploads/2015/09/RiskyBusiness_Report_WEB_09_08_14.pdf).

<sup>3</sup> U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Climate Change in the United States: Benefits of Global Action (2015), <https://www.epa.gov/cira>.

energy sources—efforts that protect against climate change, and also support clean air and a vibrant clean energy economy.

But the legal authority of cities and other municipalities generally extends only as far as their state governments and federal law allow, and local governments have little ability to regulate the circumstances imposed on them by the wider world. As a result, our local efforts to address climate change are highly sensitive to national policies like the Clean Power Plan, which shape markets, steer state action, and have large direct impacts on nationwide emissions.

We would benefit from the support and certainty that a federal framework for reducing the power sector’s greenhouse gas emissions could provide. The Clean Power Plan, by providing such a framework, would enhance ongoing local efforts and enable new local initiatives to improve public health, increase air quality, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions through energy innovation.

We would like to reiterate a statement that more than 25 mayors delivered during the course of the Clean Power Plan development: “[W]e cannot act alone. We need the federal government to provide a path forward to making meaningful reductions in carbon pollution while preparing for the impacts of climate change.”<sup>4</sup>

As XXX mayors of communities across the U.S., representing XX million residents in XX states we strongly oppose the repeal of the Clean Power Plan, which would put our citizens at risk and undermine our efforts to prepare for and protect against the worst impacts of climate change.

Sincerely,

Mayor Peggy McQuaid  
Albany, CA

Mayor Sofia Pereira  
Arcata, CA

Mayor Kathy Sheehan  
Albany, NY

Mayor Nancy Kaboolian  
Ardsley, NY

Mayor Tim Keller  
Albuquerque, NM

Mayor Esther Manheimer  
Asheville, NC

Mayor Ed Pawlowski  
Allentown PA

Mayor Steve Skadron  
Aspen, CO

Mayor Gary Goosman  
Amesville, Ohio

Mayor Keisha Lance Bottoms  
Atlanta, GA

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<sup>4</sup> Mayors National Climate Action Agenda, 27 Mayors’ Letter to President Obama, June 18, 2015, <http://climatemayors.org/actions/letters-and-%20statements/#letter-to- the-president- june- 2015>.

Mayor Steve Adler  
Austin, TX

Mayor Catherine E. Pugh  
Baltimore, MD

Mayor Kelli Linville  
Bellingham, WA

Mayor Jesse Arreguin  
Berkeley, CA

Mayor Robert J. Donchez  
Bethlehem, PA

Mayor Michael P. Cahill  
Beverly, MA

Mayor Lili Bosse  
Beverly Hills, CA

Mayor Leslie Hager-Smith  
Blacksburg, VA

Mayor David H. Bieter  
Boise, ID

Mayor Martin J. Walsh  
Boston, MA

Mayor Suzanne Jones  
Boulder, CO

Mayor Joseph P. Ganim  
Bridgeport, CT

Mayor W. Clarke Conway  
Brisbane, CA

Mayor Brenda J. Hess  
Buchanan, MI

Mayor Byron W. Brown  
Buffalo, NY

Mayor Miro Weinberger  
Burlington, VT

Mayor Edwin García Feliciano  
Camuy, PR

Mayor Robert J. Moffatt, VMD  
Cape May Point, NJ

Mayor Jim Brainard  
Carmel, IN

Mayor Mike Webb  
Carver, MN

Mayor Pam Hemminger  
Chapel Hill, NC

Mayor John Tecklenburg  
Charleston, SC

Mayor Scott Rogers  
Charles Town, WV

Mayor Andy Berke  
Chattanooga, TN

Mayor Chuck Cahn  
Cherry Hill, NJ

Mayor John Cranley  
Cincinnati, OH

Mayor Ted Terry  
Clarkston, GA

Mayor Frank G. Jackson  
Cleveland, OH

Mayor Patrick Wojahn  
College Park, MD

Mayor Steve Benjamin  
Columbia, SC

Mayor Jeff Katz  
Cooperstown, NY

Mayor Raul Valdes-Fauli  
Coral Gables, FL

Mayor Brian Tobin  
Cortland, NY

Mayor Biff Traber  
Corvallis, OR

Mayor Carla Condon  
Corte Madera, CA

Mayor Mark Landman  
Cotati, CA

Mayor Darcy Paul  
Cupertino, CA

Mayor Mike Rawlings  
Dallas, TX

Mayor Juslyn Manalo  
Daly City, CA

Mayor Robb Davis  
Davis, CA

Mayor Cary Glickstein  
Delray Beach, FL

Mayor Michael B. Hancock  
Denver, CO

Mayor Josh Maxwell  
Downingtown, PA

Mayor David Haubert  
Dublin, CA

Mayor Roy D. Buol  
Dubuque, IA

Mayor Emily Larson  
Duluth, MN

Mayor Stephen M. Schewel  
Durham, NC

Mayor Brad Cohen  
East Brunswick Township, NJ

Mayor Mark S. Meadows  
East Lansing, MI

Mayor Nancy Tyra-Lukens  
Eden Prairie, MN

Mayor James Hovland  
Edina, MN

Mayor Dave Earling  
Edmonds, WA

Mayor David Kaptain  
Elgin, IL

Mayor John J. Bauters  
Emeryville, CA

Mayor Lucy Vinis  
Eugene, OR

Mayor Stephen H. Hagerty  
Evanston, IL

Mayor Karl W. Kassel  
Fairbanks North Star Borough, AK

Mayor Ed Malloy  
Fairfield, IA

Mayor Peter Lindstrom  
Falcon Heights, MN

Mayor David Tarter  
Falls Church, VA

Mayor Colleen Mahr  
Fanwood, NJ

Mayor Lioneld Jordan  
Fayetteville, AR

Mayor David Coulter  
Ferndale, Michigan

Mayor Lindy Peters  
Fort Bragg, CA

Mayor Wade Troxell  
Fort Collins, CO

Mayor John P. “Jack” Seiler  
Fort Lauderdale, FL

Mayor Thomas C. Henry  
Fort Wayne, IN

Mayor Bob Scott  
Franklin, NC

Mayor Lily Mei  
Fremont, CA

Mayor Gary Wilkinson  
Frisco, CO

Mayor Lauren B. Poe  
Gainesville, FL

Mayor J Kachen Kimmell  
Gambier, Ohio

Mayor Karen Freeman-Wilson  
Gary, IN

Mayor Tammy Stempel  
Gladstone, OR

Mayor Bruce J Packer  
Glen Rock, NJ

Mayor Marjorie Sloan  
Golden, CO

Mayor Paula Perotte  
Goleta, CA

Mayor Emmett V. Jordan  
Greenbelt, MD

Mayor Rosalynn Bliss  
Grand Rapids, MI

Mayor Joy Cooper  
Hallandale Beach, FL

Mayor Peter Swiderski  
Hastings-on-Hudson, NY

Mayor Harry Kim  
County of Hawai’i, HI

Mayor Barbara Halliday  
Hayward, CA

Mayor Nancy Rotering  
Highland Park, IL

Mayor Gayle Brill Mittler  
Highland Park, NJ

Mayor Ravinder S. Bhalla  
Hoboken, NJ

Mayor Josh Levy  
Hollywood, FL

Mayor Alex Morse  
Holyoke, MA

Mayor Paul Blackburn  
Hood River, OR

Mayor Kirk Caldwell  
Honolulu, HI

Mayor Sylvester Turner  
Houston, TX

Mayor Candace B. Hollingsworth  
Hyattsville, MD

Mayor Serge Dedina  
Imperial Beach, CA

Mayor Jim Throgmorton  
Iowa City, IA

Mayor Svante Myrick  
Ithaca, NY

Mayor Bernard P. Carvalho Jr  
Kauai, HI

Mayor Steve Noble  
Kingston, NY

Mayor Madeline Rogero  
Knoxville, TN

Mayor Tim Kabat  
La Crosse, WI

Mayor Robert Blais  
Lake George, NY

Mayor Adam Paul  
Lakewood, CO

Mayor Danene Sorace  
Lancaster, PA

Mayor William J Sprague  
Lapeer, MI

Mayor Ken Miyagishima  
Las Cruces NM

Mayor Craig A. Moe  
Laurel, MD

Mayor Theodore Becker  
Lewes, DE

Mayor Robert Garcia  
Long Beach, CA

Mayor Adam Schneider  
Long Branch, NJ

Mayor Eric Garcetti  
Los Angeles, CA

Mayor Paul Soglin  
Madison, WI

Mayor Amy Howorth  
Manhattan Beach, CA

Mayor Barry J. Greenberg  
Maplewood, MO

Mayor Alan M. Arakawa  
Maui, HI

Mayor Stephanie M. Burke  
Medford, MA

Mayor Jim Strickland  
Memphis, TN

Mayor Gurdip Brar, Ph.D.  
Middleton, WI

Mayor Daniel T. Drew  
Middletown, CT

Mayor Sean Strub  
Milford, PA

Mayor Jeff Silvestrini  
Millcreek, UT

Mayor Tom Barrett  
Milwaukee, WI

Mayor John Engen  
Missoula, MT

Mary O'Connor, Mayor  
Monona, WI

Mayor Jamie Irons  
Morro Bay, CA

Mayor Arlene Burns  
Mosier, OR

Mayor Lenny Siegel  
Mountain View, CA

Mayor Frederick T. Courtright  
Mount Pocono, PA

Mayor Donna D. Holaday  
Newburyport, MA

Mayor Jill Techel  
Napa, CA

Mayor Megan Barry  
Nashville, TN

Mayor Kristopher Larsen  
Nederland, CO

Mayor Jon Mitchell  
New Bedford, MA

Mayor Toni N. Harp  
New Haven, CT

Town Supervisor Neil Bettez  
New Paltz, NY

Mayor Bill de Blasio  
New York City, NY

Mayor Paul A. Dyster  
Niagara Falls, NY

Mayor David J. Narkewicz  
Northampton, MA

Mayor Smith Joseph D.O., Pharm.D.  
North Miami, FL

Mayor Don Hammond  
Nyack, New York

Mayor Johnny Johnston  
Ojai, CA

Mayor Cheryl Selby  
Olympia, WA

Mayor Sheena C. Collum  
Orange Village, NJ

Mayor Buddy Dyer  
Orlando, FL

Mayor Victoria Gearity  
Ossining, NY

Mayor Andy Beerman  
Park City, UT

Mayor Donald R. Grebien  
Pawtucket, RI

Mayor Frank C. Ortis  
Pembroke Pines, FL

Mayor Jim Kenney  
Philadelphia, PA

Mayor Cindy Perry  
Pittsboro, NC

Mayor William Peduto  
Pittsburgh, PA

Mayor Kurt R. Metzger  
Pleasant Ridge, MI

Mayor Ethan Strimling  
Portland, ME

Mayor Ted Wheeler  
Portland, OR

Mayor Deborah Stinson  
Port Townsend, WA

Mayor Jorge O. Elorza  
Providence, RI

Mayor Paul Kuhns  
Rehoboth Beach, DE

Mayor Tom Butt  
Richmond, CA

Mayor Levar M. Stoney  
Richmond, VA

Mayor Lovely Warren  
Rochester, NY

Mayor Darrell Steinberg  
Sacramento, CA

Mayor Jacob Day  
Salisbury, MD

Mayor Jackie Biskupski  
Salt Lake City, UT

Mayor Sam Liccardo  
San José, CA

Mayor Pauline Russo Cutter  
San Leandro, CA

Mayor Heidi Harmon  
San Luis Obispo, CA

Mayor Rick Bonilla  
San Mateo, CA

Mayor David J. Terrazas  
Santa Cruz, CA

Mayor Javier M. Gonzales  
Santa Fe, NM

Mayor Ted Winterer  
Santa Monica, CA

Mayor Shelli Freeland Eddie  
Sarasota, FL

Mayor Chris Lain  
Savanna, IL

Mayor George Van Dusen  
Skokie, IL

Mayor Ken Wray  
Sleepy Hollow, NY

Mayor Scott Saunders  
Smithville, TX

Mayor Matthew R. Larson  
Snoqualmie, WA

Mayor Jeffrey Slavin  
Somerset, MD

Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone  
Somerville, MA

Mayor Philip Stoddard  
South Miami, FL

Mayor Domenic J. Sarno  
Springfield, MA

Mayor David Martin  
Stamford, CT

Mayor Donald M. Hahn  
State College, PA



Mayor Lyda Krewson  
St. Louis, MO

Mayor Michael Tubbs  
Stockton, CA

Mayor Glenn Hendricks  
Sunnyvale, CA

Mayor Daniel Dietch  
Surfside, FL

Mayor Tim Kearney  
Swarthmore, PA

Mayor Thomas Fromm  
Swedesboro, NJ

Mayor Drew Fixell  
Tarrytown, NY

Mayor Kate Stewart  
Takoma Park, MD

Mayor Sean Murphy  
Telluride, CO

Mayor Jim Carruthers  
Traverse City, MI

Mayor Jonathan Rothschild  
Tucson, AZ

Mayor Brian P. Stack  
Union City, NJ

Mayor Shelley Welsch  
University City, MO

Mayor Dave Chapin  
Vail, CO

Mayor Kevin J. Ryan  
Verona, NJ

Mayor Muriel Bowser  
Washington, DC

Mayor Lowell Hurst  
Watsonville, CA

Mayor John Heilman  
West Hollywood, CA

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West Lafayette, IN

Mayor Daniel J. Stermer  
Weston, FL

Mayor Jeri Muoio  
West Palm Beach, FL

Mayor Christopher Cabaldon  
West Sacramento, CA

Mayor Daniel Corona  
West Wendover, NV

Mayor Bud Starker  
Wheat Ridge, CO

Mayor Thomas Roach  
White Plains, NY

Mayor Mike Spano  
Yonkers, NY

*[Additional names will be added as received. Email [info@climate-mayors.org](mailto:info@climate-mayors.org) to add your name to the list of signatories. No digital signature needed. Deadline for signing on is **Friday, January 26.**]*